



California Health Sciences University

CHSU PATHWAY PROGRAMS & ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS

I. POLICY STATEMENT

California Health Sciences University (“CHSU”) is committed to maintaining a well-designed, effective process for developing and implementing Pathway for admission to CHSU with undergraduate institutions. Various pathways to CHSU may be developed through implementing or participating in programing for elementary school, middle school, high school and undergraduate students (“Pathway Programs”), and by entering into agreements with partner undergraduate institutions which reflect understandings between CHSU and those institutions regarding academic pathway for undergraduates to be admitted into one of CHSU’s graduate colleges (“Articulation Agreements”).

This policy summarizes the goals, development process, requirements and limitations imposed on Pathway Programs and Articulation Agreements at CHSU.

II. GOALS FOR PATHWAY PROGRAMS

Pathway Programs serve the goals of increasing awareness regarding careers in the health sciences and providing students a roadmap for how to prepare for admission to graduate health science programs. Most of all, Pathway Programs provide students opportunities for collaboration to provide resources, support and assessment for achieving career goals in the health professions, including students from disadvantaged or underrepresented backgrounds. Following completion of a Pathway program, students will be better positioned to pursue such careers and learn how they can contribute to communities in high needs areas, such as California’s Central Valley, following graduation.

Articulation Agreements serve the goal of developing highly qualified applicants for admission to CHSU by providing clear direction on what undergraduate courses they should take and explaining parameters regarding CHSU’s early decision or priority admission agreements between their undergraduate institution and CHSU. After completing the requirements set forth in an Articulation Agreement, applicants should be academically well-prepared to make the transition to a graduate program at CHSU. In some cases, Articulation Agreements may also be used as tools to shorten the time and financial cost to complete a bachelor’s and/or graduate degree by providing accelerated completion of courses required for such degrees, so long as the accelerated program does not sacrifice the qualifications of the applicants for admission to CHSU.



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Additionally, the Articulation Agreement between CHSU and partner institutions should promote alignment between curricula at both campuses whenever possible.

III. PROCESS FOR DEVELOPING A PATHWAY PROGRAM OR ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

Both Pathway Programs and Articulation Agreements should be implemented in alignment with CHSU's and the applicable component college's mission, vision, values, goals, strategic plan and accreditation requirements. The process below for each is intended to ensure such alignment with appropriate oversight from the academic administration and admissions committees within each component college.

A. Initiation and Notice of Intent to Develop an Articulation Agreement

The request for a Pathway Program or Articulation Agreement may be generated from either a source internal to CHSU, such as an administrator or student, or external to CHSU, such as an administrator at a potential partner institution. Deans of each of CHSU's component colleges are responsible for responding to the requesting party and may determine, in consultation with the Provost, whether to pursue an Articulation Agreement.

The Provost's office will develop a Notice of Intent to Develop Pathway Program form ("Notice of Intent PP") and Notice of Intent to Develop Articulation Agreement form ("Notice of Intent AA").

The Notice of Intent PP must include, at a minimum: (1) which college(s) within CHSU will be preparing the programming; (2) the name of the school district, campus or other organization the program participants (i.e., students) will be recruited from; (3) whether any external third party will support the program and the ways in which such support will be provided; (4) what funding source will be used to support the Pathway Program; (5) the name of faculty members who will participate in the program; and (6) such other information as the Provost may from time to time require.

The Notice of Intent AA must include, at a minimum: (1) which college(s) within CHSU will be preparing the programming; (2) the name and accreditation status of the potential partner institution; (3) whether CHSU has any other articulation agreements with the institution; (4) the name of the CHSU program that will be subject to the articulation agreement; (5) whether the agreement will grant priority admission or early admission decision; and (6) such other information as the Provost may from time to time require.



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Upon determining to pursue a Pathway Program or Articulation Agreement, the dean of the college(s) will submit the Notice of Intent to the Provost. The Provost will provide an approval process for the Notice of Intent forms. If approved, the Notice of Intent with a copy of the approval shall be sent to the dean of the college(s), the University Registrar, and the head of admissions for the participating college(s).

B. Development of Pathway Programs

Once approval of the Notice of Intent PP is received, the dean(s) shall oversee development of the Pathway Program in accordance with the policies and procedures of the CHSU and the college(s). A proposal or plan for the Pathway Program developed by the college(s) shall be submitted or approval to the Provost. Any modifications to an approved Pathway Program shall also require approval by the Provost. Once approved by the Provost, the Dean (or designee) may begin taking steps with other appropriate stakeholders and departments to implement the Pathway Program. Any contractual documents required for implementation must be reviewed and approved by CHSU's legal counsel prior to execution.

C. Development of Articulation Agreements

Once approval of the Notice of Intent AA is received, the dean (or designee) of the college entering into the Articulation Agreement shall oversee coordinating communication with the potential partner institution regarding the terms of the agreement, in accordance with the applicable policies and procedures of the college. The dean of the college is ultimately responsible for ensuring the Articulation Agreement is compliant with law and accreditation standard.

CHSU Articulation Agreements are college specific. A single college, some colleges or all colleges within CHSU may enter into Articulation Agreements with CHSU's partner institutions if the Articulation Agreement complies with CHSU policy and applicable accreditation standards.

CHSU's Provost (or designee), in consultation with legal counsel, will develop template Articulation Agreements for use by CHSU's colleges. The dean (or designee) of the college is highly encouraged to use the templates to streamline the process and preserve uniformity across agreements, particularly with respect to which courses qualify to meet CHSU pre-requisite requirements. Any modifications to CHSU's curriculum or pre-requisites must be reviewed and approved by the appropriate faculty committee or governance body within the relevant College. Any modifications to the templates requested by the dean (or designee) of the college or the potential partner institution must be reviewed and approved by CHSU legal counsel prior to execution. If a partnering institution will not agree to use CHSU's template articulation



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agreements, then any proposed agreement prepared by the partner institution must also be reviewed, revised (if needed) and approved by CHSU legal counsel prior to execution.

At a minimum, all Articulation Agreements shall include the following information:

1. Which courses at the partner institution will meet pre-requisite requirements for the CHSU college(s) entering into the articulation agreement.
2. Whether the partner institution has agreed to grant an undergraduate degree by allowing CHSU coursework to qualify for undergraduate degree requirements to allow the student to accelerate their overall educational program. If so, the Articulation Agreement must state that the college(s) first year curriculum matches the final graduation requirements of the partner institution, and fully articulate any additional requirements or limitations imposed for receiving the bachelor's degree by the partner institution.
3. Whether CHSU will grant qualified, eligible students from the partner institution priority in the applicable College's admission process and what additional requirements, if any, the student must meet to be considered for priority admission (e.g., minimum GPA, minimum number of pre-requisites completed at time of application, etc.).
4. Whether applicants who following the Articulation Agreement requirement will be eligible for early decision and what additional requirements, if any, the student must meet to apply for early decision.

Once the Articulation Agreement is ready for signature, the Provost or designee and dean of the college must sign the agreement. To the extent a single articulation agreement is utilized for multiple colleges, all deans must review, approve and sign the agreement. Fully executed Articulation Agreements shall remain on file with the Provost, the University Registrar, legal counsel and the admissions department for the applicable college.

If an Articulation Agreement expires, renewal shall follow the same process as initial approvals.

IV. LIMITATIONS ON PATHWAY PROGRAMS AND ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS

While participation in a CHSU Pathway Program may be looked upon favorably during the admissions process, Pathway Programs shall not be used to grant priority admission, early decision or reserved seats within a CHSU. An Articulation Agreement must be used for such benefits.

An Articulation Agreement may not create a guarantee of admission into any CHSU college. While Articulation Agreements provide a clear pathway for eligibility for admission, all students



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applying to a CHSU college must meet all requirements for admission set by that college. In other words, completion of courses outlined in an Articulation Agreement may not be substituted for the admissions requirements of the CHSU colleges.

- Policy Owner: Provost
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